

# FAMILY ♦ ADVOCACY ♦ PROGRAM

## ***Family Advocacy Definitions***

### **Child Abuse and Neglect**

#### **Physical Abuse**

A type of abuse that includes, but is not limited to, acts resulting in: death, brain damage or skull fracture; subdural hemorrhage or hematoma; bone fracture; dislocation or sprain; internal injury; poisoning; burn or scald; severe cut or laceration; other physical injury that seriously impairs the health or physical well-being of the child victim; or other minor injury which includes minor bruises, welts, cuts, twisting or shaking which do not constitute a substantial risk to the life or well-being of the victim.

#### **Sexual Abuse**

Actions including, but not limited to, the employment, use inducement, enticement, or coercion of any child to engage in, or having a child assist any other person to engage in, any sexually explicit conduct (or any simulation of such conduct). This includes, but is not limited to, rape, molestation, prostitution, or other sexual activity between the offender or a third party and a child, when the offender is in a position of power over the child. Sexual abuse also includes exploitation to include forcing or allowing a child to look at the offender's genitals, forcing or allowing a child to observe an offender's or another's masturbatory activities, exposing of a child's genitals for sexual gratification of the offender(s), talking to a child while undressed for the offender's sexual gratification, or involving a child in sexual activity such as pornography or prostitution in which the offender does not have direct physical contact with the child.

#### **Emotional Abuse**

Actions including, but not limited to, active, intentional berating, disparaging or other behavior towards the victim that adversely affects the psychological well being of the victim.

#### **Neglect**

Actions or omissions by a parent, guardian, or caretaker, which includes, but are not limited to, deliberate or negligent withholding or deprivation of necessities (nourishment, shelter, clothing, and health care), lack of adequate supervision, emotional or educational neglect, and abandonment.

#### **Spouse Abuse**

Spouse abuse includes, but is not limited to, assault, battery, threat to injure or kill, or any other act of force, violence, or emotional abuse, undue physical or psychological trauma, or fear of physical injury. This includes physical injury, or emotional abuse, undue physical or psychological trauma, or fear of physical injury. This includes physical injury, sexual assault, intentional destruction of property, psychological abuse, and stalking. The term "spouse abuse" encompasses partner abuse which is treated the same as spouse abuse cases in terms of notifications and case processing.

(Rev 18 Feb 03)